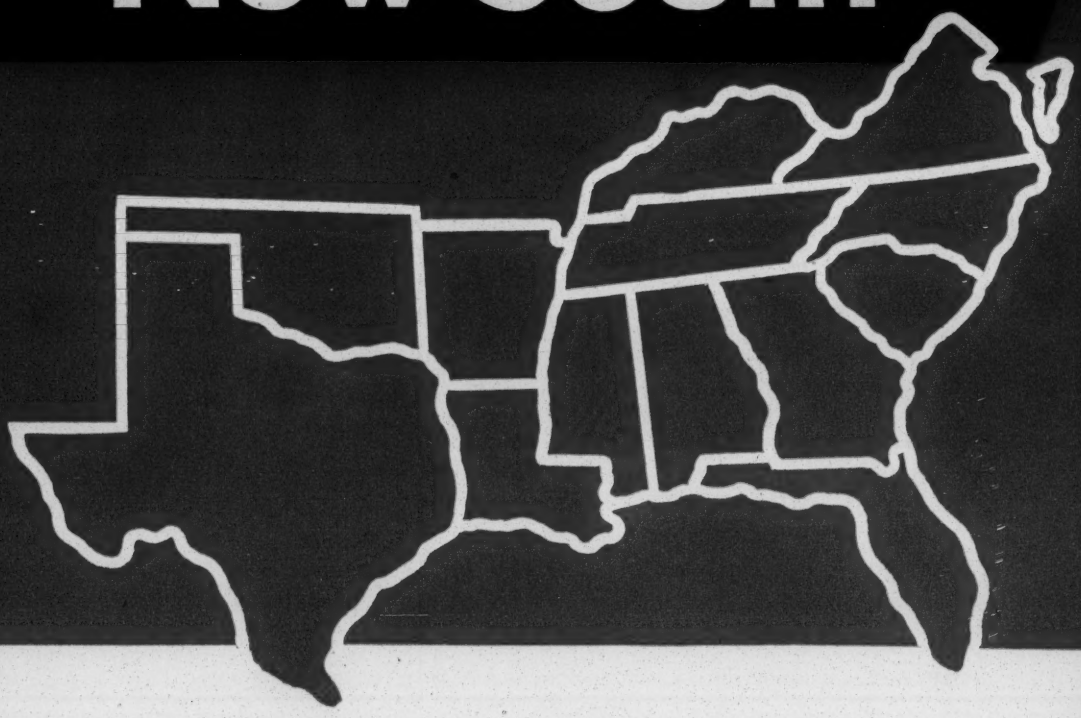
New South



- Georgians Resist Closed Schools
- Georgia Editorial Comment
- Closings Would Be Disaster
- Resolve Educational Crisis
- In the Red . . .

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New South Notes

Despite the prospect of some desegregation in the public schools, considerable sentiment has developed in Atlanta and Georgia to preserve the public educational system. This development is somewhat unique in that, unlike Virginia and Little Rock, the "save public schools" movement has received real impetus even before the schools are closed. *New South's* lead article documents some of the sentiment in Atlanta and Georgia for continued operation of the public school system.

In keeping with the lead article this month, *New South* reprints editorials from Georgia newspapers, which deal with the public school-desegregation crisis. Editorials reprinted here include ones from *The Atlanta Constitution, The Atlanta Journal, Gainesville Daily Times, North Georgia Tribune, The Valdosta Daily Times, The Atlanta Daily World,* and the *Macon Telegraph.*

Two statements by responsible groups in the Atlanta area are included in this issue. These are statements by the Atlanta branch of The Scientific Research Society of America and by 75 faculty members of Agnes Scott College. These statements deal with possible school closings in the light of scientific advancement and educational and economic losses.

And for those who still believe that a truly private educational system can take the place of public schools, *New South* offers a reprint, "In the Red . . . ," from the *Arkansas Gazette.* The editorial deals with the experiences of Little Rock's new Baptist high school, established to teach some of the children who formerly went to public schools in that city.

Georgians Resist Closed Schools

Although "segregation or no public schools" is still state policy in Georgia, it is now meeting an ever-increasing opposition.

This opposition, unique in a deep South state, is especially prevalent in Atlanta. Mayor William B. Hartsfield recently summed up the sentiment of many of the white Atlantans who oppose the abolition of public schools when he said:

"We don't want it [desegregation] . . . But we must be realistic enough not to cut off our noses to spite our face. After we have exhausted all our legal remedies in the court we will have little choice but some form of integration, that is we will if we are to keep our system of public education, for which there has yet to be found a substitute."

Opposition to the abolition of public schools has existed in Atlanta and Georgia for years, but an impressive upsurge developed after schools were closed in Virginia and Little Rock.

Such established groups as the Georgia Council on Human Relations and its affiliate, the Greater Atlanta Council on Human Relations, along with other organizations in Georgia have advocated compliance with the Supreme Court decision against segregation since it was handed down in 1954. However, following the public school crises in Little Rock, Arkansas, and in several Virginia communities, many new voices were heard with the emphasis placed, not on the segregation-desegration controversy, but on saving public schools.

These voices are not of one source but many. Some people speak as individuals, others through existing groups, such as religious organizations and parent-teacher associations. Some have banded together to form new groups.

One of the earliest statements in Georgia following the closing of schools in other states came from the United Church Women of Georgia. As early as October 24, 1958, the Church Women urged "compliance with the law of the Nation" in order to "keep our schools open."

The group adopted the following resolution:

"Only two alternatives for educating our children are open to the state:

"1. Public education in compliance with the law of the nation.

"2. No public education.

"In view of the experience since the attempted adoption of the Private School Plan in other states, it appears that existing legislation in our own State should be reexamined and that every means should be taken to return the decision affecting schools to the local communities.

"Therefore, we call specifically and respectfully on our state leaders to keep our public schools open in compliance with the law."

Following is a listing of groups speaking out for continued public schools in Georgia. It ranges from educational to religious groups, from professional association to civic organizations.

On November 18, 1958, the West End-Cascade Heights Civitan Club of At-

Georgians

(Continued)

lanta endorsed a "local option plan for continuing public schools." The resolution urged that Atlanta parents, citizens, and civic-minded individuals be given the right to determine whether or not to continue public schools.

A few days later, November 22, 1958, 312 ministers and rabbis of Greater Atlanta issued a statement calling for the preservation of the public school system. This was, in a sense, an extension of a statement signed a year earlier by 80 ministers concerned with the problems of race relations.

Among the points made by the ministers, speaking as individuals, were: "(1) It is clearer now than ever before that we must obey the law, and (2) It is clearer now than ever before that the Public School System must be preserved." This statement is being widely distributed by the Georgia Council of Churches.

Also in November, the Atlanta League of Women Voters appointed a 10-member steering committee to plan the organization of a central citizens committee "to preserve the public schools of Georgia." The Georgia League of Women Voters' President, Mrs. Edward Vinson, announced at the same meeting that the League was distributing material on the public school question. One of the documents, prepared by the State League, quotes from the U. S. and Georgia constitutions and Supreme Court and other federal court decisions in answer to the legal questions "the public has posed about the segregation controversy." The pamphlet ("Do You Know the Law about Schools?") is available from the Georgia League of Women Voters.

A group of faculty members from Emory University became the first organized group of educators in Georgia to speak out against the closing of the schools. On November 29, 1958, 250 of the school's 360 full-time faculty members signed a statement which said that closing public schools would result in "irreparable damage . . . not only to the people of any particular community, but also to the state and nation at large."

Emory University

The Emory faculty members said that closing of public schools "will amount to nothing less than willful discrimination by people of this region against themselves and their own children."

Professional workers in the Atlanta area also have become concerned about the possibility of closed schools. On December 10, 1958, the 160 members of the Atlanta Communicable Disease Center Branch of the Scientific Research Society of America called for the continuance of public schools. The group, "an organization to stimulate interest in scientific research and in the training of scientists," said that "no private school system yet devised has been able to bring basic education within the reach of the general population. Therefore, this chapter vigorously opposes any plan which will result in abolition of the public school system."

Educators again spoke out a few days after the scientists' group. On December 13, 73 members or 97 per cent of the faculty at Agnes Scott College issued a statement declaring that closing of public schools in the fight against desegregation would be a disaster.

During the same period, it was re-

ported that about 70 per cent of the faculty at Georgia Tech had signed a statement urging support of public schools. This statement, however, has not been released to date.

Students at Georgia Tech did speak out against school closings, however. "The Technique," student newspaper, reported on January 24, 1959, that of 2,741 questionnaires answered by Tech students, 1,950 favored keeping schools open even with desegregation. The polls showed 642 students favoring closing of the schools rather than accept Negro students and 149 were undecided.

Earlier, on January 17, the University of Georgia student newspaper, "The Red and Black," announced that a poll of 200 students showed 60 per cent prefer desegregation to closing the school.

Doctor Statement

A number of doctors added their voices to the public school controversy. On December 20, a statement signed by 419 Atlanta area physicians said that "closing of the public schools would constitute catastrophe." (Copies available from Southern Regional Council.)

According to press statements by Dr. Dan Burge, this statement was drawn up by 37 doctors; and following its release with 419 signatures, a number of additional doctors called to request that their names be added to the list.

Other religious organizations early in 1959 added their votes against closing public schools. Among these were the Georgia Council of Churches and the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta.

On January 13, 1959, approximately 100 members of the Georgia Council of Churches unanimously adopted a resolution calling for measures "that will preserve our system of public education for all." The group, composed of both white and Negro ministers and laymen, represented nine denominations of the council.

Episcopal Statement

In a resolution passed in January, 1959, at the 52nd annual council of the Episcopal diocese in Atlanta, delegates said that "the closing of public schools is an extremity that must be avoided at any cost." It was resolved that the clergy of each parish and mission in the diocese appoint a committee of laymen to call on state leaders and discuss ways and means of preserving public schools.

In February, another group of educators urged the continuation of the public school system. Thirty-one members of the Oglethorpe University faculty issued a statement calling any suggestion of closing public schools "a dangerous folly."

The educators said, "We deplore with all our strength those laws which force the closing of public schools, and the recommendations of those who would allow public education to cease, even for a short period, in the hope of gaining some time to halt the inevitable."

Two of the most significant events in the fight to preserve public education in Georgia came in December in the formation of new organizations. One of these, organized on the adult level, is called HOPE (Help Our Public Education). The other was organized by Druid Hills High Schools students under the name of Students for Open Schools (SOS).

SOS announced that the purpose of the group is to:

"Gather, study, and distribute pertinent information relating to the public

(Continued)

school controversy.

"Inform the public in regard to student opinion.

"Take such action as may be appropriate to influence legislators and adult groups in the direction of keeping the public schools open."

HOPE, founded in Atlanta December 15, 1958, is reportedly growing and gaining recuits from other sections of the state. The chartering group stated its purpose "to give factual information to those citizens of Georgia who want to keep our public education from being destroyed by the closing of the schools; to give direction, information and program of action to those groups and individuals throughout the state who feel, as we do, that the closing of our schools would be a tragedy almost too terrible to contemplate."

A recent rally of HOPE drew an audience estimated at 1,400 to 1,800.

Active Voters

Active Voters congratulated the "Help Our Public Education" movement "for its aggressive and effective leadership in the fight to preserve our public schools."

At the same time Active Voters also voted its approval of the Citizens Bi-Racial Committee of the Fulton County Grand Jury. The committee had been formed by the Grand Jury on a private basis after the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce declined a request from the jury to organize such a group. Active Voters commended the Grand Jury for "courageously facing the problem of race relations in our city and county."

Parent-Teacher Association activity on the public school question also has been noted in the Atlanta area, and the state Parent-Teacher Association Executive Committee has spoken out in support of public education.

The state group, meeting in Athens, Georgia, on January 9th of this year stated:

"We, the executive committee of the Georgia Congress of Parents and Teachers in session, do reaffirm at this time our faith in and support of the public school system for Georgia children and youth."

PTA's

In a survey conducted by Parent-Teacher associations in Atlanta, 34 of the city's PTA groups answered. Of this number, 18 PTA's voted to accept some desegregation rather than close schools while 15 voted to close schools to maintain continued segregation. One school reported a tie vote.

Individual school voting figures were not made public by the Atlanta PTA Council, but later 11 schools which favored keeping schools open released their vote breakdawn. These include:

Northside High—515 to 90; North Fulton High—427 to 67; Morningside—564 to 16; Inman (families)—123 to 19; E. Rivers—525 to 86; Sarah Smith—477 to 48; John Carey—148 to 52; Chattahoochee—43 to 6; Connally—123 to 118; Whitefoord—123 to 42, and Spring Street—208 to 52.

In addition, two school PTA's in adjoining DeKalb County have voted for continued operation of the public schools. These are Fernbank Elementary School PTA, which voted 451 to 12 for open schools, and Briar Vista Elementary School PTA, with 223 favoring continued public schools even with de-

segregation and 14 favoring the school's closing.

Although Georgia's white teachers again pledged their support for the continuation of "separate but equal schools" in the recent Georgia Education Association meeting, the resolution had stiff opposition for the first time in the history of the association. After a vigorous floor fight against the resolution, it passed 569 to 267. This opposition indicated that many of the Georgia teachers are beginning to look realistically at the educational situation as it exists today. A GEA delegate from College Park, Mrs. James Wood, touched off the floor fight against the resolution when she called it "absurd."

"The era of equal but separate education is over," Mrs. Wood said.

And a few days after the meeting, both the retiring and incoming presidents of the GEA spoke out for public education.

Randall Minor, president of Shorter College and retiring GEA President, was quoted in the press as saying he believed that private schools as now constituted cannot take on the job of educating all "our people."

Finance

"Under our present tax structure, I doubt if private schools could do the job," Mr. Minor said.

Mrs. Gladys Darling, new GEA President, was quoted as saying she does not believe that the public will let schools stay closed if they are closed to thwart segregation.

Many other individuals are speaking out against the closing of public schools, and some are taking a stand against segregation itself.

Protest against "massive resistance" on such a scale is unique in the South. Several important events contributed to the rise of this sentiment in Georgia.

Mrs. Gordon Wilson of Little Rock told a HOPE rally in Atlanta that she was impressed with the city's opposition to abolishing public education. Mrs. Wilson, a member of the Women's Emergency Committee to open our schools, told the group, "We were lulled into believing there would be no trouble in Little Rock. We took it for granted that our schools would remain open."

Damage

The results of the closing of four schools in Little Rock, Mrs. Wilson said, is that "we and our children are being badly hurt."

Much of the sentiment for continued public education in Georgia can be traced back to the fact that schools in Little Rock and Virginia were closed and that, subsequently, the economy and education in those areas have suffered. Many Georgians hope to profit by these negative examples.

However, most Georgians know that, as matters now stand, they will inevitably face a similar dilemma to that in Little Rock and in Virginia. A suit against the Atlanta Public School System asking that it be restrained from enforcing segregation is now before the courts.

It is still too early to tell just how effective this opposition to "massive resistance" will be. But, significantly, there has been some indication that state leaders may take a similar road to that of Virginia when they are finally confronted with the choice of total segregation or no public schools.

A state leader in the Georgia House of Representatives was quoted in the

Georgians

(Continued)

press recently as saying that a two-part system of integrated and segregated public school system is being considered by some Georgia legislators.

The representative, Frank Twitty, who was Governor Ernest Vandiver's House floor leader, said that while it is not an administration proposal, "some of us have been thinking about" a plan under which parents who want to send their children to a desegregated school could do so.

"For those who want segregated schools," he is quoted as saying, "we would try to provide them. And if we can't have segregated schools, we would try to provide an appropriation for children to attend private schools."

This plan is similar to the one in operation in North Carolina and the one apparently now contemplated in Virginia.

Discuss the Issues

Reprinted from Atlanta Constitution

Little Rock, Ark.—I have been furnished with a copy of Ralph McGill's article of March 5 entitled "The Issue Doesn't Go Away," and I want to thank him for having written it.

In addition to the responsibility for the economic well-being of the community, it seems to me that the Chamber of Commerce has a moral obligation in the promotion and preservation of the cultural welfare of its area, and certainly this would place upon the organization a real responsibility in the interest of public education.

Certainly if the Chamber of Commerce is to represent the business leadership of the community, it should assume the responsibilities which go with that leadership. There were many factors contributing to our organization's silence on the subject, but I am proud that our Board of Directors in setting up the organization's program for 1959 acknowledged a responsibility for public education and has taken a stand in its interest.

Needless to say, there are those in our community who do not agree that our position is correct. Be that as it may.

Certainly the fact that the good people of Atlanta are willing to discuss the issue in advance (both sides of it) and try to reach decisions based on intelligence and facts will be an encouragement to the people in our community to face the issue on the same basis. And as other cities of character assume similar responsibilities for their communities, we will gain courage from their action despite concerted efforts in this area to keep the issue on an emotional basis.

On the other hand, I would urge your good people to profit by our experience. Our problem is far from being solved, but for the first time in many, many months we can see a ray of hope.

E. Grainger Williams
President, Little Rock
Chamber of Commerce

Georgia Editorial Comment . . .

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

Mayor Hartsfield is quite correct in assessing response to his stand on local option school closing as indicating that people are genuinely worried. His correspondence as well as that coming to this office indicates that the great majority of people do not want the public schools destroyed.

Court actions in other states show that many of Georgia's laws intended to preserve segregation will not hold up. The state's leaders are thus faced with coming up with solutions which will stand court tests or risk closing of the schools.

Destroying the state's public school system would be an incalculable disaster. Private schools which would permit education at best for less than half the children cannot meet the needs of a state whose economy is expanding and which needs more, not less, education. Closing the schools would become, too, a political issue which in time would destroy those responsible for it. . . .

Mayor Hartsfield's suggestion that the people concerned be allowed the privilege of referendum on whether or not to close the schools at least has the merit of the democratic process. Speaking for a system which affects more people than any other, the mayor does not want the disaster of no schools to hit a city which has more to lose than any other in the state.

There must be discussion of the problem such as we've seen here recently and solutions somehow must be found. Certainly the situation in Little Rock is so tragic that almost anything would be preferable. We must not let ourselves be led down the same path to near self-destruction. Our leadership is challenged not to let it happen.

• • •

THE ATLANTA JOURNAL

The coming crisis in education continues to be the chief topic of conversation wherever two or more articulate people are gathered together. . . .

More than 1,000 interested Atlantians attended a rally . . . to listen to a discussion of this all pervasive subject. The meeting was under the sponsorship of HOPE, Inc. (Help Our Public Education), a new group interested in keeping the schools open, as who isn't. . . .

An uncompromising choice between public education and segregation is yet to be made here. But the way things are going elsewhere in the South, it will take something akin to an act of God to put off that choice forever.

When and if that day comes the shock will be considerably lessened by these public discussions and the basically realistic attitude which is one of the distinguishing marks of this state's history.

By then the people with children to educate may be able to approach the problem rationally and without heat. By then the politicians might be able to speak honestly, too, for they should know full well by now that while he who closes the schools may be a hero today to many, he will be tomorrow's all-time heel unless he provides a substitute just as good.

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GAINESVILLE DAILY TIMES

The contrast between two recent rallies in Atlanta, one for HOPE, Inc., which wants to maintain Georgia's public school system, and another for Atlantians for Segregated Schools, which is willing to close the school system, is too obvious to be lost on the people of the state.

A marked difference in the ages of most of the attendants at each meeting was observed. The speaker at the "closed schools" rally was Charles Bloch, an elderly gentleman. His audience to a measure reflected his own carefree approach: to them closing the schools would mean some reduction in taxes, and that would be about the limit of its personal effect.

The HOPE group, twice as large as the other, was younger and, naturally, considerably more dedicated because of the positive and constructive nature of its viewpoint. The "HOPEFULS" have stopped kidding themselves. If the choice is between destruction of the public schools and looking for some other way to keep them open, their choice is to keep the schools open and try a different line.

Our observation, for what an eyeball estimate is worth, is that the HOPE group in Atlanta reflects far more substance than you'd expect in what is essentially a reform movement. HOPE's cadre of workers, growing with surprising speed, consists of solid and established people, established in every respect. There is no wild-eyed radicalism represented or even the foggy do-gooding aspect of those who want to do something but can't figure out what the something is. . . .

• • •

NORTH GEORGIA TRIBUNE

School officials are beginning to become concerned that schools will not open in Georgia next September. Already we are beginning to learn that the private school plan in Arkansas is not workable—students that are attending do not like it and neither do their parents. Others just attend no classes at all since they will receive no credit for their work. . . .

It is our humble opinion and that of many others that the operation of schools should be left to the local school districts. Let the people of Cherokee County send their children to the schools of their choice. If our people wish to send their sons and daughters to private schools they can set up private schools and do so at their own expense.

Those who wish to send their children to public schools can continue to do so—

some may be mixed, some may not. Teachers will not be thrown out of work and the children themselves will have some choice in continuing to study toward the profession they have chosen.

Regardless of everyone's opinion, parents must realize the seriousness of the situation facing us and not do like Scarlett—put it off until tomorrow.

• • •

TURNER ROCKWELL
IN
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

Members of the faculty at Emory University have exercised their right to freedom of expression by signing a statement opposing the closing of the public schools anywhere in the nation. This is just another illustration of the right of the individual to express concern over a condition that vitally affects his children and, thereby, his family life. . . .

Whether we agree with the attitude of the Emory faculty members or not, we must recognize the fact that they are looking facts in the face and are taking steps to meet a serious situation that could develop from the closing of public schools.

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THE ATLANTA DAILY WORLD

To further bolster the claim of the public school system, to assert its importance in our community life, Agnes Scott College faculty, representing 97 per cent of its teaching staff, would register its support to the fast growing sentiment in favor of the retention of our system. . . . The ministers of the city led the way in a strongly worded claim for the system. Naturally these would represent the best minds among their members to whom they look for support.

In the face of these recent developments, it can hardly make sense that there are still among us people who would prefer the experiences of Virginia and Arkansas rather than assent to the sound thinking of those long trusted and tried friends of our systems.

• • •

MACON TELEGRAPH

Atlanta has her back to the wall on the school desegregation question. Though the gunsight is trained on Georgia's largest city, every other public school system is, of course, in jeopardy. Atlanta is asking the right to say whether its schools will be closed if confronted with a federal order to desegregate, or whether the schools will be kept open and the order complied with.

Atlanta should be given this right. . . .

Closing Would Be Disaster

75 Faculty Members

of

Agnes Scott College

As members of the faculty of Agnes Scott College and citizens deeply concerned for the welfare of the South, we wish to express our earnest hope that the public schools will be preserved. We feel that closing them would be a major disaster to the region.

We assent entirely to the warning published by the Emory faculty of the loss in people qualified for every sort of work demanding special training, which the suspension of public education would cause.

Another even more far reaching evil would be the spread of actual illiteracy. For the past 50 years we have struggled to build up the public schools in order to combat exactly this handicap and to give every person the educational equipment to function as a citizen in a democracy.

It seems the height of folly to jeopardize now the fruits of the struggle. The substitution of private for public schools, haphazard at best, would work a peculiar hardship on the children of the parents with small incomes, who would be left largely without any schooling at all.

Since numerically this group is far the largest in our population, a great proportion of our people would have little or no education.

Furthermore, illiteracy is now a much more serious economic handicap than it was 50 years ago, when the society of the region was largely agrarian and much of the work was hand labor.

In this day of mechanization, there are very few jobs which can be performed by illiterates. The deterioration of the working group because of lack of education would make a still further gap between the per capita income of the region and that of the rest of the nation.

We feel also that closing the schools and thus making idle a great number of active boys and girls would be inviting them to turn their energies to mischief or more serious trouble making. This is said in no disparagement of our young people. There is real danger to the community in depriving any large group of its normal fruitful occupation.

Any dislocation in our educational system would accelerate the migration from our region of its most gifted young people. We are just beginning to be able to hold them because of the influx of industry, which would itself be endangered by uncertainty about education and a supply of trained workers. . . .

We urge, therefore, that our public schools be kept functioning without any break in the continuity of their service, so essential to the very life of the community.

Resolve Educational Crisis

Atlanta Communicable Disease Center

of

The Scientific Research Society of America

The local chapter of the Scientific Research Society of America, an organization of approximately 160 professional scientists in the Atlanta area, wishes to express to you its concern regarding the possible closing of our public schools. No private school system yet devised has been able to bring basic education within the reach of the general population. Therefore, this chapter vigorously opposes any plan which will result in abolition of the public school system.

Since the main purpose of our organization is to stimulate interest in scientific research and in the training of scientists, we are seriously concerned with the adverse effect which closing the public schools would have upon these objectives. We feel that any prolonged interruption of the normal flow of students into scientific fields would be a calamity both to Georgia and to the nation.

Our nation is presently engaged in a struggle in which scientific inventiveness and achievement play a major role. It is no exaggeration to say that our survival as a democratic nation depends to a great extent upon continuous training of young scientists and the discovery of new talent. The complexity of modern physical and biological sciences requires that scientific orientation begin early in the elementary school and advance steadily thereafter. We cannot afford to lose a single year of schooling for the next generation of students. School time, once lost, is very difficult to recover.

As public health physicians, engineers and allied medical scientists, we are also concerned with the long-range effects on the nation's health resulting from existing shortages of trained medical personnel which would be further aggravated by interruption of the education process at any level.

Another important problem which needs to be considered is the difficulty of attracting new scientific talent to the Atlanta area in the absence of a functioning public school system. Recruitment of specialized scientific personnel is already becoming more difficult since well-qualified individuals are reluctant to move into an area in which public education has such uncertain status.

In the light of the above facts, we urge most emphatically that you give your active support to such legislation as is necessary to insure the continuity of the public school system in the State of Georgia. The future of Atlanta and the future of Georgia depends upon the ability and determination of the responsible people of this state to resolve the educational crisis which faces us.

In the Red

Reprinted

from

Arkansas Gazette

The financial report of the Board of Trustees of Little Rock's new Baptist High School should have a sobering effect on those who talk blithely of creating a complete private school system to educate the children displaced by anti-integration closing of the public schools.

It is costing the Baptists $8,500 a month to provide an offering of 25 and one-half units of a state-accredited program to 370 students. Income from monthly tuition fees of $20 a month, and from donations, is bringing in only $6,500 a month. This $2,000 monthly deficit in operating revenue is compounded by the fact that the school still owes some $3,500 on the original purchase of furniture and supplies.

This is the financial record of an institution which came into being with no original investment in buildings and grounds, and therefore does not have that usually heavy overhead to contend with. Even as a free tenant of the Second Baptist Church's educational plant, however, and with courses and physical facilities far more limited than those formerly available in the public schools, it has been unable to make ends meet.

Higher tuition presumably could wipe out the deficit. But the Baptist High Board reports that 70 of the 370 students now in attendance are unable to pay even the comparatively modest $20 a month.

Such is the experience of a genuinely private school which has attempted to subsist on genuinely private resources. (In compliance with the Baptist principle of separation of church and state, the School has accepted none of the money transferred from the closed Little Rock schools to other public and private schools.) Since the legal prospect is that any private schools we may create here must ultimately operate on the same basis, Baptist's experience is worth pondering as Governor Faubus moves the entire state on to the last extreme of massive resistance to federal court orders.

Can we, as a practical matter, educate any significant proportion of our children in private schools? That's the question we are going to have to face before the next big show-down in September.

Noteworthy quotes from the press and periodicals

. . . Unquote

"The impact of the Norfoik decision is slowly sinking in on the minds of our governmental authorities. I am hopeful about the possibility of our rising to the occasion through government to meet the problem of keeping the schools open."

State Rep. James Mackay
of Georgia
Quoted in *Atlanta Constitution*

• • •

"We're disturbed all right. We've been disturbed [concerning school closings] since about last October. There's been plenty of unrest and anxiety on the part of teachers. I've noticed it here and at meetings with other groups of teachers."

Mrs. Essalee Burdette,
Southeastern Regional Director of
Classroom Teachers for the
National Education Assn.
Quoted in *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

• • •

"I wouldn't be honest if I didn't say it [desegregation in Virginia] was a blow to our cause [of segregation]."

Governor Ernest Vandiver
of Georgia
Quoted in *Atlanta Journal*

• • •

"I don't think there's anything that could take the place of our public education system. The majority of our people could not afford a private system."

Superior Court Judge J. L. Renfroe
of the Georgia Ogeechee Circuit
Quoted in *Atlanta Constitution*

• • •

"Once you shut down the schools many believers in segregation would be willing to compromise."

Ivan Allen, Jr.
Atlanta businessman
Quoted in *Atlanta Constitution*

• • •

"How can we imagine that if we remove public schools from the picture, parochial and private schools can do the job that all three are not now doing adequately?"

School Superintendent Jim Cherry
DeKalb County, Georgia
Quoted in *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

• • •

"... But I am opposed to the surrender of the public school system of Georgia under any circumstances unless something equally good and offering equal opportunity to all our children is offered as a substitute."

Quimby Melton, Jr.
Georgia legislator
Quoted by United Press International

The Changing South in Print!

"New South—an excellent magazine dedicated to saving the South from destroying itself by clinging to the shabby myths of the 19th Century."

Harry W. Ernst
Charleston* (W. Va.) *Gazette

"One of the best sources for materials on the South today."

Current Events

"New South . . . provides editors, students and public-minded citizens with timely, authentic information on developments in the South."

Avery County* (N. C.) *News

"[The Council has] earned a reputation for sound, constructive research and publication of factual material."

Atlanta Constitution

"The Council has put out a notable series of studies in Southern life and needs."

Christian Century